

Great Heath Academy Newsletter



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Recent Events

Individual Photos: Hopefully you will by now have received instructions on how to purchase any photographs that you may wish to.

Assemblies: Thank you to the classes who have presented their class assemblies so far they have been great! – we are now looking forward to seeing the other classes.

Trips and Visits: In an effort to help you with your planning we have tried to set out at this early stage the likely trips and visits for the different year groups now. Whilst we will make every effort to stick to this plan we may have to make changes should we have difficulties with booking coaches and/or destinations. At the moment though we are aiming to take:

YR to the Zoo in the spring term

Y1 to Lackford Lakes in the summer term

Y2 to Hunstanton in the summer term

Y3 to Duxford Air Museum in the summer term

Y4 to The Fitzwilliam Museum in the spring term

Y5 to Colchester Castle this term

Y6 to Norfolk (Residential) in the summer term

COMING SOON

- **Parent / Teacher Evenings**
- **FOGHS Disco**
- **Christmas!**



Autumn – It only seems a short time ago that we were enjoying the ‘Indian Summer’ with temperatures in the high 20’s but it does seem that Autumn has arrived and therefore please make sure your children come to school with a warm coat as we do still send them outside to play!

Social Media and Internet Crazes – It has come to my attention once again that there have been less than complimentary postings about our school and - so I am led to believe - some of the staff on Facebook etc. I know through my networking with headteachers of other local and national schools that this is an increasingly common issue but I would like to ask again please that you come and talk to us if you have comments to make both negative and positive and to remove any postings about staff and what we do as a school as they may be against the law. I am also aware as I am sure that you are too that there is a new ‘craze’ of dressing up as a clown to scare people (usually children) that has come over from America fueled by the Internet. I do know of one pupil here who has been spoken to by one of these ‘clowns’ on his way home and was understandably upset by the experience. One person elsewhere in the country has been arrested for his clown actions and the police are taking it very seriously so do please report any sightings.

Academy Improvement – As you know we are very keen to involve you as parents and carers as fully in school life as possible and to that end have recently started a new initiative whereby we have begun inviting the parents of maths and writing certificate winners to share in their celebration in Friday assemblies. As with all new ideas it does mean that previous winners have missed out on this opportunity but I am sure that over the coming months they and many others will be selected and that you will get your invite soon.

Premises Development – I have already explained in my last 2 letters the various improvement works that have been taking place in the school over the summer and in the past few weeks. As you know the car park and cycle shelter work was meant to have been finished for the start of the new term and here we are nearly in half term and it has still not been formally handed over to me; something which I know the local authority are looking closely into. However, we are nearly there as the car park seems to be finished bar a few markings and the cycle shelter where the old one was is already being used by you all. There is another shelter including scooter pods in the area behind what was the caretaker’s bungalow where work has also been taking place. I have been told that these can also be used from after half term and I will send out another letter next week explaining how these extra facilities can be accessed and how they will eventually link in with additional pathways around the school as part of the next building work of 8 new classrooms that is due to start in January!

Staffing Update – I would like to take this opportunity to formally welcome Nick Cuff and Lydia Clough to the teaching team and Jenni Heffer and Annika Allen to the teaching assistant team. With more pupils joining at the start of term we have recruited more assistants who will be joining us soon – I will welcome them in the next newsletter.

Thank You – Steven Vincent - Principal

Dates For Your Diary

Please find general dates for the coming year/s below and details of events that have already been finalised. **We will send out additional diary dates for other events during the year once they have been confirmed.**

Also please check our web site www.greathathacademy.atrust.org.uk for further information about us. You will also find useful links to such sites as our uniform supplier and of course our Twitter Feed!

2016

Monday 17th October ~ Parent/Teacher Evening 1 (3:30 to 6:30PM)
Tuesday 18th October ~ Parent/Teacher Evening 2 (3:30 to 6:30PM)
Wednesday 19th October ~ Cluster Girls football tournament on our field after school
Friday 21st October ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 31st October ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 1st November ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday
Thursday 3rd November ~ FOGHS Disco
Tuesday 20th December ~ Last day for pupils before the Christmas holiday

2017

Wednesday 4th January ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Thursday 5th January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday
Friday 6th January ~ PANTO (AM)
Friday 10th February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 20th February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday
Friday 31st March ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday
Tuesday 18th April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday
Monday 1st May ~ May Day – **school closed**
Monday 8th May ~ Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)
Friday 26th May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 5th June ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 6th June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday
Monday 12th June ~ Y1 and some Y2 Statutory Phonics screening week – all Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please - **IMPORTANT**
Friday 21st July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday

New Academic Year –Please Note only 2 INSET days shown below – a further 3 will be designated and shown soon.

Monday 4th September ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Tuesday 5th September ~ School reopens for pupils after the summer holiday
Friday 20th October ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 30th October ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday
Tuesday 19th December ~ Last day for pupils before the Christmas holiday

2018

Wednesday 3rd January ~ INSET day for staff – **School closed to pupils**
Thursday 4th January ~ School reopens for pupils after the Christmas holiday
Friday 9th February ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 19th February ~ School reopens to pupils after the half term holiday
Thursday 29th March ~ Last day for pupils before the Easter holiday
Monday 16th April ~ School reopens for pupils after the Easter holiday
Monday 7th May ~ May Day – **school closed**
Monday 14th May ~ Y6 Statutory Test week (Y6 pupils **MUST** attend school all week – **VERY IMPORTANT**)
Friday 25th May ~ Last day for pupils before the half term holiday
Monday 4th June ~ School reopens for pupils after the half term holiday
Monday 11th June ~ Y1 and some Y2 Statutory Phonics screening week – all Y1 and Y2 pupils in school this week please - **IMPORTANT**
Tuesday 24th July ~ Last day for pupils before the summer holiday